

ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

A method of producing polyvinyl alcohol polymer, with which a high-strength polyvinyl alcohol polymer with a high degree of saponification can be obtained, the polyvinyl ester saponification process can be linked directly with the spinning process, in which the polyvinyl alcohol polymer is made into fiber, the mole ratio of alcohol with respect to the polyvinyl alcohol can be freely selected, and the concentration of the polyvinyl alcohol obtained by the saponification reaction is high. The polyvinyl alcohol polymer that is obtained by this method exhibits a high block character value and is excellent in randomness is provided, wherein a polyvinyl ester is subject to a saponification reaction in an alcohol-containing organic solvent under the presence of a saponification catalyst and the saponification is carried out while distilling off the carboxylic acid ester that is produced by the saponification reaction.